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ings, their earnest exhortations to civic righteousness, and their almost pathetic appeal to guard sacredly "the country that lives in us" ought to give to them a permanent place in our most treasured literature.

EDWARD E. HILL

CHICAGO NORMAL SCHOOL

Elementary Turning. By FRANK H. SELDEN, The University of Chicago. Chicago: Rand, McNally & Co., 1907. Pp. 197; with nearly 300 illustrations. \$1.00.

This is the second of a series of four books by the same author announced by the publishers. The first, *Elementary Woodwork*, was published in 1906, the third will deal with elementary cabinet-making, and the fourth with pattern-making. The present volume on turning is intended by the author as a text to be placed in the hands of the pupil with the expectation that "there will be little need for class demonstration." The following paragraph sets forth a somewhat original point of view that is continually emphasized in the book (p. 39): "If the tools catch and the piece is spoiled, the exercise should not be repeated. You should pass on to the next exercise. By attempting the next problem you will have an opportunity to see the same difficulty from a different viewpoint, and it may enable you to overcome it. Only by a study of the methods, instead of blindly practicing for skill, will you become able to do good and rapid work. To repeat an exercise simply to gain skill cannot result in a knowledge of turning, and is certain to injure the mind, although by such repetition you may be able to do some very good work."

Part I consists of a series of thirty lessons on the fundamental exercises in turning; Part II contains thirty-two supplementary exercises; and Part III presents a very satisfactory discussion of tools and fittings. The numerous illustrations are for the most part from photographs and serve their purpose well. The book should prove a help to the busy teacher.

Educational Woodworking for Home and School. By JOSEPH C. PARK, State Normal and Training School, Oswego, New York. New York: Macmillan, 1908. Pp. 310, over 250 illustrations. \$1.00 net.

This book is an attempt to provide "a textbook that can be put into the hands of pupils so that they may be held responsible for important subject-matter in connection with woodwork." It does not attempt, as some other books have done, to take the place of a teacher but rather assumes the supervision of a skilled instructor. It gathers together in convenient form a mass of material on tools, machines, timber, etc., for use in reference and recitation. Included in the book is an outline of a course in woodworking covering years 6 to 9 inclusive and numerous working drawings of shop projects.

Part I, 78 pages, describes and illustrates woodworking tools; Part II, 20 pages, woodworking machinery; Part III, outline study of wood; Part IV, fastening devices used in wood construction; Part V, wood finishing; Part VI, exercises in woodworking; Part VII, wood turning. The book closes with

appendices and fourteen pages of useful tables. The abundant illustrations, halftones, zinc etchings, and wood cuts are drawn from various sources.

WILLIAM T. BAWDEN

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Stories New and Old. Selected, with Introductions, by HAMILTON WRIGHT MABIE. New York: Macmillan, 1908. Pp. 459. Illustrated. \$1.50.

Dr. Mabie is too wise to permit his collection of short stories to go forth without a preliminary warning to the critics. He does not contend that he has selected the best ten short stories, English and American, but rather that he has garnered ten short stories "primarily in the interest of good reading," and because the "stories present material for a comparison of the earlier and later styles, and for the study of the leading types or varieties of this form of writing." Notwithstanding these adroit excuses, the learned editor has much to answer for. His volume is a provoking book: provocative of astonishment at the kind of selections; of irritation at the smoothly written, but unsatisfactory and thin introductions to the several stories; and of regret that he has made, on the whole, a book that smacks of magazine padding.

The first place in the volume is given to Austin's little-known story entitled "Peter Rugg, the Missing Man," which was first published in the *New England Galaxy*, about 1824. Dickens' "Dr. Marigold's Prescriptions" is a more worthy inclusion, but it is reprinted in the book with "omission of passages not essential to its development." These omissions were written by Dickens, and for that reason, we think they should have been included. Various justifications are given by the editor for selecting Dr. Brown's "Rab and His Friends," Aldrich's "Quite So," Shorthouse's "The Marquise Jeanne Hyacinth St. Palaye," Allen's "King Solomon of Kentucky," Stevenson's "Will o' the Mill," and Wister's "The Game of the Nation." Hawthorn's "Ethan Brand," and Poe's "The Pit and the Pendulum" are included for reasons that are somewhat forced and insufficient. One purpose in the selecting of the short stories is everywhere evident: the purpose of getting contrasts in high light. A less evident purpose is apparent in selecting stories that have a touch of the spiritual element in them. Aside from these purposes the volume has no distinction. In fact, we cannot recall any selection of short stories so incomparably bad as these selections made by Dr. Mabie. Dr. Mabie's other books have always been a solace and a comfort, a repository of knowledge and instruction, but his book of short stories will, we are sure, add nothing to his reputation as a critic and a student.

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Lives of Great English Writers. By WALTER S. HINCHMAN AND FRANCIS B. GUMMERE. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co., 1908. Pp. 569. Illustrated. \$1.50.

Of the many methods of teaching English literature three at least are well defined: the critical, the historical, and the biographical. A score of years ago—